

**City of College Park  
Recreation Board Meeting  
College Park Community Center  
5051 Pierce Avenue**

**Monday, November 7, 2016  
6:30 PM  
MINUTES**

<b><u>Members</u></b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>	<b><u>Absent</u></b>
Stuart Adams	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
Jazs Araghi	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
Alan Bradford	<u>          </u>	<u>  X  </u>
Adele Ellis	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>
Eric Grims	<u>          </u>	<u>  X  </u>
Bettina McCloud	<u>          </u>	<u>  X  </u>
Judith Oarr	<u>          </u>	<u>  X  </u>
Barbara Pianowski	<u>          </u>	<u>  X  </u>
David Toledo	<u>  X  </u>	<u>          </u>

**Also Present:**

**Robert Ryan, *Public Services Director*; Sharon Fletcher, *Department of Public Services Administrative Assistant*; MK Fitzsimons, *M-NCPPC*; Joi Woods, *Contract Secretary***

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:39 p.m.

**II. Approval of Agenda**

Mr. Adams motioned to approve the agenda as submitted. Mr. Toledo seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed 4-0-0.

**III. Approval of Minutes**

a. September 12, 2016

Ms. Araghi motioned to approve the September minutes as submitted. Mr. Adams seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed 4-0-0

**IV. Treasurer's Report - September 2016**

- a. Co-Chair Ellis reported, in the absence of the Treasurer, that there were no changes to the bank account and the balance remains at \$1,698.05. Ms. Ellis motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report, Mr. Toledo seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0-0.

**V. Field Use Request-** Board members present agreed to delay discussion until there is a full quorum.

- a. Prince George's Pride Lacrosse – M, W, F, Sa and Sun 03/17 – thru 06/09/17

## **VI. Blues Festival**

- a. Ms. Fletcher stated that there were approximately 550 people in attendance throughout the event. Mrs. Ellis shared her observations of attendance during the festival's band performances; she believes that crowd thinned for the second band.
- b. Ms. Araghi discussed costs related to booking talent, and recapped the event's promotional efforts. There was some discussion of lessons learned in preparing for the 2016 event. Ms. Araghi noted some ideas for the 2017 Blues Festival in order to increase promotion efforts including the use of the city's website and social media pages.
- c. Additional discussion ensued about options and ideas to negotiate discounted and donated services to maintain event costs. The group also discussed conflicting events that impacted attendance at different points during the Festival. *Ms. Araghi raised concerns about discounted and donated services in support of the 2016 Blues Festival. There was also general discussion by those who attended the event concerning sufficient chairs on the floor as well as parking in the lots nearest to the Coliseum.*
- d. Mr. Adams suggested relocating the event to the Art House in the future. Ms. Araghi inquired about use of the Grand Ballroom in the Stamp Student Union. Mr. Toledo commented on potential hindrances linked to traffic and parking restrictions at either of these locations.
- e. Ms. Araghi was concerned about the lack of volunteers from the DC Blues Society; she also commented on the first use of the sound proof drapes, highlighting factors that affected acoustics during performances.

## **VII. Future Events**

### **a. Breakfast with Santa - 12/10/16 10:00 am 12:00 pm**

- The group discussed associated roles and responsibilities and the order of the event, details
  - Community center staff decorates venue, table and chair set up, provides entertainment
  - 8:00am Rec Board Member(s) arrive to set up
  - Rec Board Member(s) set up food (buffet style)
  - Entertainment is provided from 10:00 am until 11:00 am
  - Santa arrives via escort of the College Park Fire Department at 11:00 am
  - Photo opportunities for participants: attendees are invited to take their own photos with Santa
- There was discussion as to who would serve as Santa. Mrs. Ellis suggested former board member Wade Price and offered to contact him. Mr. Adams suggested the person who served as Santa for the 2015 Calvert Hills and will forward his contact information to Ms. Fletcher.
- Mrs. Ellis mentioned the need for additional volunteers to set up and serve refreshments. Mr. Toledo indicated that he will be in attendance.

**b. Martin Luther King, Jr. Tribute - 01/14/17**

Venue change: event is to be held at the University of Maryland Chapel instead of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. Volunteers are needed for this event. If anyone would like to volunteer, please let Ms. Fletcher know.

**c. Winter Bowling - 02/19/17- *Details to be determined***

- Sharon Fletcher stated that the date is typically planned around All-Star Sunday. Adele Ellis offered some details about the role of the Event Host to secure a contract with the bowling alley, planning and promotion.
- Full discussion postponed until next meeting.

**d. UM Good Neighbor Day - 04/01/17 9:00 am -1:00 pm**

- Partnership with Park and Planning: Ms. Fitzsimons stated that the planning committee is seeking project ideas and exploring options pertaining to sustainable community gardening.
- The event's focus is to engage and involve community members in addition to University of Maryland students and spur positive community relationships. An estimated 400 volunteers participated in the 2016 event; the goal is to increase volunteer participation to 500 in 2017.
- The order of the day includes: breakfast, transporting groups to project locations, return to Community Center for lunch, presentation from a speaker, followed by music and dancing.
- Ms. Fletcher and Ms. Fitzsimons engage in brief discussion regarding costs about the DJ for the party & celebration.

**e. Bunny Brunch - 04/08/17 11:00 am-1:00 pm**

- The set up is similar to Breakfast with Santa. Ms. Fletcher will enter a reservation of the Center through Parks and Recreation Community Connect.
- **Maryland Day – 04/29/17** Ms. Ellis stated that the City hosts a table during the event that requires minimal preparation. Sharon Fletcher maintains and updates the events annual promotion flyer.
- Ms. Araghi stated that she would be in attendance for a portion of the event to man the table.

**VIII. New/Other Business**

- a. Ms. Adams shared an observation and idea to create opportunities with the University of Maryland Community and the City Residents and organizations
- b. Ms. Fitzsimons reported on the quarterly Community sports event *CP (College Park) Dream Team* with, County, University and Park Police and City youth. The event also offers opportunities to showcase local talent during half-time performances. Ms. Fitzsimons suggested ideas for additional

partnership and cross promotion with the Recreation Board. The next game is scheduled for February 3, 2017, 7:00 pm. - 10:00 pm.

- c. Ms. Araghi reported that attendees of the Blues Festival were ticketed, in spite of agreement not to do so in the lots closest to the Coliseum. Bob Ryan advised that anyone ticketed should follow the appeal process and would follow up to resolve the issue.
- d. Field Use Request-Prince George's Pride Lacrosse – Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday 03/17 through 06/09/17
  - Miss Ellis made a motion for preliminary approval of the filed use request from Prince George's Pride Lacrosse until there is a full quorum. David Toledo seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0-0.

**IX. Next Meeting :** December 5, 2016

**X. Adjournment**

Mr. Toledo motioned to adjourn. Ms. Ellis seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed 4-0-0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.